

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9-11, and 14-18 are pending in the above-referenced patent application.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, and 9-11 have been amended, claims 3, 6-8, 12 and 13 have been cancelled and claims 14-18 have been added. It is noted that these claims were not amended to overcome the rejections and objections, or in light of the cited references. Rather, the claims were amended to more clearly delineate intended subject matter. Furthermore, it is believed that these amendments do not narrow claim scope. Rather, in some cases, the claims are even broadened. Therefore, no prosecution history estoppel should result from these claim amendments. Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that adequate support may be found in the specification for new claims 14-18. For example, adequate support may be found in paragraphs [0025] to [0031], Fig. 3A, 4A, 5A, 5B, 6A and 6B.

In the Office Action, dated September 2nd, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6, 9, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by "Applicant's Admitted Prior Art" (AAPA). This rejection is respectfully traversed. It is noted that claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

Although Assignee does not agree with the Examiner's characterization of what Applicant has admitted as prior art, it is respectfully submitted that AAPA does not disclose each and every element of the rejected claims, as amended, and, therefore, a prima facie case under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) has not been established. As just an example, referring to claim 1, as amended, AAPA does not show or describe "a shell, having an upper and lower surface, wherein a groove is formed on the upper surface and a fixing mechanism disposed on the shell, wherein the fixing mechanism is adapted to fix one of a document window glass and/or a transmission document carrier to the groove." AAPA describes a flat bed scanner having an open groove arranged at a side surface, wherein the open groove is formed to receive a transmission document carrier.

Assignee respectfully submits that, for at least the reasons presented above, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established, and, therefore, claim 1, as amended, is in a condition for allowance. It is noted that many other bases for traversing the rejection could be provided, but Assignee believes that this ground is sufficient. Additionally, claims 2, 4-5 and 9-11 as amended, are in a condition for allowance for the same and/or similar reasons as presented with reference to claim 1,

as amended, and new claims 14-18 are in a condition for allowance for the same and/or similar reasons as presented with reference to claim 1, as amended. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw his rejections of these claims.

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CONCLUSION

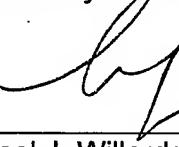
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims pending in this patent application, as amended, are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, she is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439-6500. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges of any fees required for this submission to Deposit Account number 50-3703.

Dated: _____

12/2/05

Respectfully submitted,



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